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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR 1946.

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WOMBWELL :  
A. TAYLOR & SONS, LTD.

1947



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Thornhill House,  
DARFIELD,  
Near Barnsley.

November, 1947.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting to you the Annual Report of the health and social conditions of your urban district for the year 1946.

This will probably be the last report I shall have the pleasure of presenting to you because the new scheme of having a full-time Medical Officer for the combined districts will operate as from the 1st of January, 1948.

The Report shows that, on the whole, the health of the population has been good and only 28 cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year. The Birth Rate was a little lower than last year though still higher than the figure for England and Wales. The total number of deaths registered was smaller than last year by eighteen.

The erection of the twenty prefabricated houses in Illsley Road made a satisfactory beginning to the housing drive and created a stir of interest throughout the area. A great number of people took the opportunity of inspecting these houses when they were open to the public and found much to admire in the compact design but did not hesitate to criticise certain features.

A small improvement in the Infantile Mortality figures is shown but the total is still very unsatisfactory. There were no deaths from maternal causes.


A beginning was made during the year on the permanent houses on the North Street site. Housing is the most urgent problem in the area and it was good to see these signs that every effort was being made to overcome the problem.

I am,

Yours obediently,

J. W. WHITWORTH,  
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.



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# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR 1946.

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## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

### Area.

The area of the district is 2,018 acres.

### Population.

The Registrar General's estimate of the resident population at the middle of the year is 5,910. An increase of 170 above the figure for 1945 and reflecting the return of demobilised service men and women.

|                     |     |     |     |       |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Population for 1944 | ... | ... | ... | 5,703 |
| Population for 1945 | ... | ... | ... | 5,740 |
| Population for 1946 | ... | ... | ... | 5,910 |

### Inhabited Houses.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of the year was 1,692.

This is an increase of 21 over the figure for 1945 and is made up of 20 prefabricated aluminium houses erected by the Urban District Council in the Illsley Road site and one permanent bungalow erected by private enterprise

The building of 50 permanent brick houses on the Council's North Street site was begun towards the end of the year. These developments, along with the other plans of the Authority, will do much to ease the housing problem.

### Rateable Value.

The rateable value of the district was at the 1st of April, £20,832/0/0

The product of a Penny Rate was £80/13/1.

### New Industry.

A new development in the industrial life of the village was the establishment of a small branch factory by a sports equipment manufacturing firm, chiefly employing female labour. Several other Companies made enquiries which may fructify at a later date.

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## VITAL STATISTICS.

### BIRTHS :

| Live Births.        | Males | Females | Total |
|---------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Legitimate ... ..   | 67    | 49      | 116   |
| Illegitimate ... .. | 4     | 1       | 5     |
| Totals ... ..       | 71    | 50      | 121   |

The Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population for Darfield was 20.47.

The Birth Rate per 1,000 resident population for England and Wales was 19.10.

### STILL BIRTHS.

There were no still births recorded during the year, a very satisfactory statement to record.

The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales was 0.53.



**Deaths.**

The total number of deaths registered during the year was 55.

Male Deaths ... .. 27

Female Deaths ... .. 28

This total is 18 less than in 1945.

Death Rate per 1,000 population for Darfield was ... 9.30

Death Rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales 11.50

**TABLE 1. Causes of Deaths during 1946.**

| Disease                        | Male | Female | Total |
|--------------------------------|------|--------|-------|
| Tuberculosis                   | 3    | 1      | 4     |
| Cancer                         | 3    | 2      | 5     |
| Diabetes                       | 1    | 1      | 2     |
| Intra-Cranial Vascular lesions | 2    | 3      | 5     |
| Heart Diseases                 | 8    | 9      | 17    |
| Bronchitis                     | 1    | 1      | 2     |
| Pneumonia                      | 1    | —      | 1     |
| Other respiratory diseases     | —    | 1      | 1     |
| Diarrhoea under 2 years        | 1    | —      | 1     |
| Other digestive diseases       | —    | 1      | 1     |
| Nephritis                      | 1    | 2      | 3     |
| Premature Birth                | 1    | 3      | 4     |
| Con. Mal., birth inj.          | 1    | 1      | 2     |
| All other causes.              | 4    | 3      | 7     |
| Totals ...                     | 27   | 28     | 55    |

### Infantile Mortality.

There were 8 deaths during the year of infants under the age of one year. This figure is an improvement on the figure for 1945 when 12 deaths were recorded but it yet remains far above the figure for England and Wales when expressed in terms of a rate per 1,000 live births, viz:—

|  |        |       |
|--|--------|-------|
| Infantile Mortality Rate for Darfield          | ... .. | 66.10 |
| Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales | ... .. | 43.00 |

### Maternal Mortality.

I am pleased to be able to report that again this year, as last year, there were no deaths due to maternal causes.

### Medical Services.

The Medical Services and Clinics have continued unchanged during the year.

### Ambulance Service.

The Ambulance Service organised by the West Riding County Council from the Hoyland Depot has remained unchanged during the year. There has not been any improvement in the type of vehicle used for the service.

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## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The total number of cases notified during the year was very small as compared with the preceding year, viz:—

|  |        |     |
|--|--------|-----|
| Infectious diseases notified during 1945 | ... .. | 169 |
| Infectious diseases notified during 1946 | ... .. | 28  |

### Scarlet Fever.

The number of scarlet fever cases notified during the year was 12 as against 15 in 1945 and 8 in 1944.

### Diphtheria.

Not one case of diphtheria was notified during the year. Three cases were notified during 1945 and two in 1944.

### Immunisation.

The immunisation campaign was continued during the year and the very happy position of being able to report that not one case of diphtheria occurred during the year can be attributed to the fact that parents have availed themselves of the facilities offered. A great deal of the credit for the success of the campaign is due to the District Health visitor, Nurse Pinkney. Her indefatigable and persistent propaganda ensured the success of the campaign.

The incidence of other notifiable diseases is shown in Table 2.

TABLE 2.

### Infectious Diseases Notified.

|                 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Scarlet Fever   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 |
| Whooping Cough  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9  |
| Pneumonia       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5  |
| Erysipelas      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| Sonne Dysentery | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| Total           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 28 |

## TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE YEAR

The number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year was 9 as compared with 8 during 1945 and 11 in 1944.

The number of deaths from this cause was 4. Details are given in Table 3.

**TABLE 3.**

**Tuberculosis Cases notified during the year, 1946.**

| Age Periods    |     |     |     |     | New Cases  |   |                |   | Deaths     |   |                |   |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|---|----------------|---|------------|---|----------------|---|
|                |     |     |     |     | Respirat'y |   | Non-Respirat'y |   | Respirat'y |   | Non-Respirat'y |   |
|                |     |     |     |     | M          | F | M              | F | M          | F | M              | F |
| 0              | ... | ... | ... | ... | =          | = | =              | = | =          | = | =              | = |
| 1              | ... | ... | ... | ... | =          | = | =              | 1 | =          | = | =              | = |
| 5              | ... | ... | ... | ... | =          | 1 | =              | = | =          | = | =              | = |
| 15             | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3          | 1 | =              | = | =          | = | =              | = |
| 25             | ... | ... | ... | ... | =          | 2 | =              | = | 1          | 1 | =              | = |
| 35             | ... | ... | ... | ... | =          | = | =              | 1 | 2          | = | =              | = |
| 45             | ... | ... | ... | ... | =          | = | =              | = | =          | = | =              | = |
| 55             | ... | ... | ... | ... | =          | = | =              | = | =          | = | =              | = |
| 65 and upwards | ... | ... | ... | ... | =          | = | =              | = | =          | = | =              | = |
| Totals         |     |     |     |     | 3          | 4 | =              | 2 | 3          | 1 | =              | = |







